

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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BY CABLE

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1. As Prime Minister of Japan, OGATA Taketora, IKEDA Hayato, HATOYAMA Ichiro, ICHIMADA Hisato, NOMURA Kichisaburo and ASHIDA Hitoshi would favor a policy of close cooperation with the United States; while SHIGEMITSU Mamoru, KISHI Nobusuke and ISHIBASHI Tanzan could not be depended upon for close cooperation as they are more likely to be influenced by opportunistic considerations if domestic pressures for rapprochement with the Communist orbit develop.
2. OGATA, IKEDA and ICHIMADA are best equipped to carry out a long-range program of cooperation owing to the breadth of their political influence and support. HATOYAMA and NOMURA would probably not be able to remain in office long enough to establish and activate their policies. HATOYAMA is handicapped by his health and indecisive character. NOMURA is handicapped by his narrow political and popular support, which is limited to pre-war politicians and bureaucrats. KISHI, SHIGEMITSU, ISHIBASHI and ASHIDA lack sufficient power and influence to be depended upon to activate even a short-range policy of cooperation.
3. None of these persons would promote a policy of cooperation with the Communist orbit of his own choice, nor would they be likely to promote policies of neutralism or co-existence. However, if sufficient temptations were offered by the Communists or if domestic pressures become strong, a Nehru-type policy might be espoused by KISHI, ISHIBASHI, SHIGEMITSU and HATOYAMA. There is also a slight possibility that IKEDA might be influenced in this direction.
4. IKEDA, NOMURA, OGATA and ISHIBASHI would be most likely to take vigorous action to restore Japan's economy. SHIGEMITSU is handicapped in this as he is mistrusted by business leaders who fear his inflationary policies.

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5. None of these persons are known to hold resentment toward the United States. They all realize that Japan must strengthen its own economy, but they also realize that aid from the United States is indispensable for the time being. They all recognize the need for rearming Japan and for the maintenance of United States troops and bases in Japan until rearming is accomplished.

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